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Certificate of Mailing 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

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Name of Person Signing Certificate:

Sheryl R. Neumann

Date

June 17, 2004

Signature

Sheryl Neumann

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor: Katsuya
WATANABE, et al

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Conf. No.: 1679

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Appln. No.: 10/805,965

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Filing Date: March 22, 2004

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Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR RECOGNIZING OPTICAL DISCS, OPTICAL
DISC DRIVE, AND METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DISTINGUISHING DATA
STORAGE LAYER

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)

Enclosed are copies of each of the documents listed on the attached Information Disclosure Citation Form(s) PTO/SB/08A and/or B, which may be material to the patentability of this application and/or for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission that any of the listed documents constitutes prior art, nor as an admission against interest in any manner.

U.S. Patent 5,235,581 is an equivalent of Japanese Patent No. 4,95224. U.S. Patent 5,446,565 is an equivalent of Japanese Patent No. 7-98431. U.S. Patent 6,229,778 is an equivalent of Japanese Patent No. 8-138261. U.S. Patent 6,285,635 is an equivalent of Japanese Patent No. 11-176073. Seven of the listed references are cited and discussed at pages 2-4 of the

specification.

In accordance with the official waiver posted July 11, 2003, wherein the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office officially waives the requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i) for submitting copies of each cited U.S. Patent and U.S. Patent Application Publications with respect to applications filed after June 30, 2003, we have not included copies of such cited U.S. patent and U.S. Patent Application Publications. However, we will provide copies upon request. Copies of the foreign references are attached hereto for the Examiner's convenience.

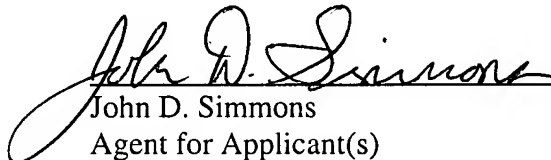
No fee is believed to be due in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-1017.

It is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement and the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A and/or B be considered and acknowledged by the Examiner in connection with the above-identified patent application, be made of record therein, and that the listed document(s) be cited in the issued patent.

Respectfully submitted,

Katsuya WATANABE, et al.

June 16, 2004
(Date)


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Enclosures

Form PTO/SB/08A

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/805,965
Filing Date	March 22, 2004
First Named Inventor	Katsuya WATANABE, et al.
Group Art Unit	2655
Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Attorney Docket Number	10407-82US (A3103MT-US1)

Sheet	1	of	1
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Exr Initials	Include Name of first Author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (where appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), volume-issue number(s), page(s), date (in parentheses). If a book, also include publisher and city and/or county where published.	T ₁
	R. KATAYAMA, "Blue/DVD/CD Compatible Optical Head", MICROOPTICS NEWS, Vol. 20, No. 3, pp. 19-23.	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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